Increase in export

1097. SHRI K. C. KONDAIAH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the export has shown upward trend during the current financial year;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the items which has shown upward trend during the year and steps taken/ proposed to be taken to keep up upward trend during the coming years; and

(d) the percentage of increase compared to the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) to (c) As per the Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence & Statistics provisional data, the exports have registered a positive growth of 12.6% in US $ terms during April-November, 1999 over the same period last year. Upward trend has been noticed in the export of marine products, gems & jewellery, chemicals and allied products, engineering goods, electronic hardware, textiles, handicrafts and carpets.

A number of steps have been taken to further enhance the export growth which include reduction in transaction cost through decentralisation, simplification of procedures and various other measures as enumerated in the Exim Policy. Steps have also been taken to promote exports through multilateral and bilateral initiatives, identification of thrust sectors and focus regions.

(d) As per the DGCI & S data export growth in US $ terms for the year 1996-97, 1997-98 and 1998-99 has been estimated at 5.3%, 4.6% and 3.7% (provisional over the provisional data of 1997-98) respectively.

Development centre in Pauri Garhwal

†1098. SHRI MANOHAR KANTDHYANI:-Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) wether Government have accorded approval to the development centre going to be established in Pauri Garhwal district, out of eight development centres approved for the State of Uttar Pradesh;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.